

CONFIDENTIAL

REFERENCE 62

Scholtz, Allen, Professor of Biology, Eastern Washington University. January 26, 2005. Telephone conversation regarding bull trout occurrence, Upper Columbia River with Linda Foster, E & E, Seattle, Washington.

USEPA SF



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Project Name: Upper Columbia River**TDD Number:** 03-04-0003**Date:** 1/26/05**Time:** 12:00**Contacted By:** Linda Foster *LF***Person Contacted:** Dr. Allen Scholtz**Title:** Professor of Biology**Agency/Affiliation:** Eastern Washington University**Subject:** Bull Trout Occurrence

Content: In the last two years since Ecology & Environment, Inc. last contacted Dr. Scholtz, electro shock fish surveys have continued within the Upper Columbia River annually in the Fall. In the Fall of 2004, one bull trout was observed during surveying at the mouth of Hawk Creek. Dr. Scholtz was not sure whether any bull trout were observed during the survey conducted in the Fall of 2003.

Most observances of bull trout over the years have been in water bodies providing inputs to the Upper Columbia River such as Lower Arrow Lake, the Kootenay River, and the Pend Oreille River. Dr. Scholtz stated it is his belief that the occurrences of bull trout in the Upper Columbia River are the result of specimens being washed down from these tributary reaches during periods of high flow such as occurred in 1997. During this year, an increased number of bull trout were observed in the Upper Columbia River as opposed to the several previous years when no bull trout were observed. Since 1997, the observances of bull trout have steadily declined.

Mr. Scholtz also stated in support of this belief, that over the years, he has not observed evidence of bull trout reproduction areas in the Upper Columbia River within the Lake Roosevelt segment.